

Further, as provided in 37 CFR 1.475(b), a national stage application containing claims to different categories of invention will be considered to have unity of invention if the claims are drawn only to one of the following combination of categories: (4) A process and an apparatus or means specifically designed for carrying out the said process.

Please note that the International Application as passed through PCT phases I and II without any issues regarding lack of unity of invention. Further, the corresponding case has been granted by the EPO with claims very similar to those pending in the present application. For the Examiner's convenience, a copy of the granted EP patent claims is attached.

Having made the required election, a full examination on the merits of the elected group is requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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